



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of) Confirmation No.: 6610
Michael Kirkwood, et al.,)
Serial No.: 09/823,819) Group Art Unit: 2161
Filed: March 30, 2001)
Examiner: Brian D. Goddard

For: BUSINESS VOCABULARY DATA STORAGE USING MULTIPLE
INTERRELATED HIERARCHIES

LETTER TO EXAMINER WITH REFUND DEMAND

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With this letter the Applicant has filed a petition for revival of the above-identified application and a Notice of Appeal. The Applicant has had to take these actions solely because the Office failed to timely mail a Notice of Allowance, or another Office Action, in reply to the Applicant's timely reply to the last, final Office Action, even though PAIR shows that a Notice of Allowability has been "counted" in the case.

Applicant's representative is aware that the Office recently instituted a procedure in which an Examiner prepares a Notice of Allowability that is "counted," but no Notice of Allowance is mailed at that time, and the case is referred to a contractor to perform "Dialog template searching" before the case can be cleared for allowance. In this case, some seven (7) months have elapsed without resolution of such searching.

This is not an isolated case. Applicant's representative is aware of other cases in which even longer delays have occurred. Respectfully, the new procedure is **not working**, and is costing this and other applicants thousands of dollars in unnecessary fees, and causing

unwarranted delays in processing meritorious cases. The Applicant would appreciate anything that can be done to inform USPTO management about the problems inherent in this procedure, and the manifest unfairness of a process that virtually guarantees that an applicant must spend thousands of dollars to maintain a case and, ultimately, merely increases the number of cases in the docket of the Board of Appeals and Interferences.

Further, if a Notice of Allowance ultimately issues in this particular case, all fees involved in this submission ought to be refunded *sua sponte* by the Office, and Applicant hereby demands such a refund.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

July 21, 2005

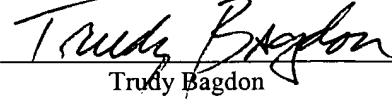


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on July 21, 2005 By 

Trudy Bagdon

DHC
JW

FEE TRANSMITTAL

for FY 2005

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.
 Small Entity payments must be supported by a small entity statement, otherwise large entity fees must be paid. See Forms PTO/SB/09-12.
 See 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.27 AND 1.28

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT **(\$)** **2,180.00**

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/823,819
Filing Date	March 30, 2001
First Named Inventor	MICHAEL KIRKWOOD
Examiner Name	BRIAN D. GODDARD
Group/Art Unit	2161
Attorney Docket No.	50325-0528

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)

1. Throughout the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees, including any required extension of time fees, and credit all overpayments to deposit account 50-1302. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Deposit Account Number

50-1302

Deposit Account Name

Hickman Palermo Truong & Becker, LLP

2. Payment Enclosed:

Check Money Order Other

3. Applicant(s) is entitled to small entity status.

See 37 CFR 1.27.

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65 Surcharge – late filing fee or oath
1052	50	2052	25 Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.
1251	120	2251	60 Extension for reply within first month
1252	450	2252	225 Extension for reply within second month
1253	1,020	2253	510 Extension for reply within third month
1254	1,590	2254	795 Extension for reply within fourth month
1255	2,160	2255	1,080 Extension for reply within fifth month
1401	500	2401	250 Notice of Appeal 500.00
1402	500	2402	250 Filing a brief in support of an appeal
1452	500	2452	250 Petition to revive – unavoidable 1,500.00
1453	1,500	2453	750 Petition to revive – unintentional
1501	1,400	2501	700 Utility issue fee (or reissue)
1502	800	2502	400 Design issue fee
1504	300	2504	300 Publication Fee
1462	400	1462	400 Petitions Director not specifically provided for Group I
1463	200	1463	200 Petitions Director not specifically provided for Group II
1464	130	1464	130 Petitions Director not specifically provided for Group III
1806	180	1806	180 Submission of information Disclosure Stmt 180.00
8021	40	8021	40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)
1809	790	2809	395 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))
1810	790	2810	395 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))
Other fee (specify) _____			
Other fee (specify) _____			

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1011	300	2011	150 Utility filing fee
1111	500	2111	250 Utility Search fee
1311	200	2311	100 Utility Examination fee
1081	250	2081	125 Utility Application Size Fee
1005	200	2005	100 Provisional Application Fee
1085	250	20835	125 Provisional Application Size Fee
SUBTOTAL (1)		(\$) 0.00	

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Highest Paid Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from Below	Fee Paid
Total Claims	-20**=	0	x 50.00 = 0.00
Independent Claims	- 3**=	0	x 200.00 = 0.00
Multiple Dependent			=

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see below

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202	50	2202
		25 Claims in excess of 20
1201	200	2201
		100 Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	360	2203
		180 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	200	2204
		100 **Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	50	2205
		25 **Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2)		(\$) 0.00

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3)

(\$) **2,180.00**

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	CHRISTOPHER J. PALERMO	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,056	Telephone	(408) 414-1080
Signature	<i>Christopher J. Palermo</i>			Date	July 21, 2005

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Amend, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.